A Copy of a Letter ſent to the Commiſſioners of Accounts: And now Publiſhed for Information of the Lords and Commons of England.

Gentlemen,

THE Taxes and Loſſes of the Nation are ſo heavy, that it forceth the Nobility, Gentry, Merchants of *London*, *Briſtol*, *New-Caſtle*, and all other Ports of this Kingdom, and the Inhabitants thereof: As well as Officers, Soldiers and Seamen of *England* to apply themſelves to you our Common Truſtees, for taking the Public Accounts of the Nation, for Redreſs. And being upon your Oaths, and Paid out of the Public Money, we cannot but hope, as far as in you lies, you will give your Aſſiſtance in Preſenting to the next Seſſions of Parliament, a Juſt and True State of all Receipts and Iſſues of the Public Revenue of this Kingdom in the Method hereafter deſired.

The Ruin of the Merchandiſe and Trade (without which this Nation cannot ſupport the Government in Time of Peace or War.) The Arrears due to the Officers of the Army, Navy, Soldiers, Seamen and Yards, cry loud in our Streets, as well as in *Flanders*, for your Juſtice to Them and Us. And the Parliament when Sitting, ſhall have theſe our Grievances truly Stated, and laid before Them by Us: From whom we hope, and doubt not, their Juſtice upon the Authors of theſe our Misfortunes.

The Officers and Pentioners in Parliament, are known to Us, and where they live (and their Proceedings this Seſſions, we ſhall not be Ignorant of) but That we ſhall reſerve to a future Conſideration in the next Parliament.

That which we now expect from You, is, That you will Faithfully and Honeſtly make to the Parliament at their next Meeting, theſe three Accounts following; which we know by Your Care, may be eaſily done, and Vouched to You by all proper Officers, againſt which there can be no Contradiction, *viz.*

Firſt, An Account of all the Public Revenues, as well Taxes as other Branches, that was, or came into the *Exchequer*, or otherwiſe, ſince the Eleventh Day of *December* 1688. to the Twenty Ninth of *September* Inſtant; and that Annually, and Diſtinctly; and what the whole for that time amounts unto.

And likewiſe in Diſcharge thereof, an Account of what the Eſtimates deliver'd by the Kings Direction, into the Houſe of Commons, amounts unto every Year (which they agreed to provide for) *viz.* The Army, Navy, Ordnance, Victuallers, as alſo the Civil Liſt (not exceeding 600000 l. *per Ann.*) together with the 600000 l. paid the *Dutch*; including likewiſe the 7 l. *per Cent* Intereſt, paid and allow'd upon the Taxes, where there was a Clauſe of Credit given by Parliament, and not otherwiſe, and there make the Balance, to ſee, whether the Parliament gave ſufficient to Anſwer that End, or not.

In the ſame Account take Notice, Whether there was not Sufficient (by the Lords of the Treaſury for the time being) Impreſs'd and paid to the Pay-Maſters of the Navy, Army, Ordnance and Victuallers, to anſwer the Eſtimates given into

the House of Commons for those Years, or that time (and how far the Muster-Rolls fell short of the Number of Men provided for) with such Observations upon the whole, as you, upon your Oaths, Judge necessary.

Secondly, To make a distinct Account of what Money has been Receiv'd out of all the Branches of the Public Revenue, as well as Taxes, that were in Being continued, or given this present Year; and how much thereof has been Imprested, Paid and Apply'd to this present Years service, *viz.* To the Navy, Army, Ordnance and Victualling Office; with respect to their several Appropriations.

Thirdly, To State the Arrears, and Debt now due to the Army, Navy, Ordnance and Victuallers distinctly; as well as to the other Officers of the Civil List upon the Establishment. But for other Persons that have intrusted the Government, we cannot reasonably expect you should do it without particular applications made to You by them, so as the Parliament ought to take Cognizance of it, or to provide for the Payment thereof.

'Tis not desired, nor expected, That in this State of the Nations Accompts, You shall Deduct, or Include the Expence of the Privy Purse, Secret Service, Pentions, Jewels, or other Private Expences of that Kind: They being not intended by the Parliament to hold any *Medium* with that of the Public Defence of the Nation, for which our Money was given (the 600000 l. *per Ann.* for the Civil List, including all Allowances of that Nature.)

You may if you think fit, by way of *Memorandum*, give one Line in your Accompt, what those Expences amount unto, to shew the Parliament, what Care was taken thereof.

But You, Gentlemen, were by Act of Parliament, to Examin upon Oath, what Pentions have been paid, and to whom, that are Members of both Houses of Parliament; which as yet You have not done.

Upon the whole, 'tis by all the Persons concerned, or named herein, desired and required, that you will give the Parliament a true Account hereof; that thereby we may know, whether sufficient Money was given to pay the Army, Navy, Ordnance, Victuallers, Civil List, and the *Dutch* Six hundred thousand Pounds The Consequence of which may prevent that Ruin and Desolation to *England*, which is daily threatned from abroad, to attend both You and Us. And thereby the Parliament may be enabled to take such Measures this Sessions, as may preserve the King and Government of *England*; and give a seasonable Check to a Set of Undertakers, who (for great Places and Profit) have not only laid a Scheme to stifle this Accompt, but to destroy both You and Us, by giving Exorbitant Taxes, and a general Excise, which tends to the Ruin of the very Being of Parliaments.

2*d.* of *September*,
1693.

To the Honourable Sir Tho. Clarges, *Sir* Peter Colliton, *Bir* Samuel Barnardiston, *Baronets*; *Sir* Benjamin Newland, *Sir* Matthew Andrews, *Knights*; Paul Foley *and* Robert Harley, *Esquires*, *Commissioners appointed by Act of Parliament, for Taking and Stating the Publick Accompts of the Kingdom.*

The

The State of the Nations Account we take to be as follows; unleſs contradicted by the Commiſſioners of Accompts.

	Mil.	l.
Received and paid into the Exchequer, or will be received between the 11th of *December*, 1688. and the 11th of *December* 1693. being five Years; Five and twenty Millions, and five hundred thouſand Pounds.	25	500000
Allowed for the pay of the Army, for the ſame time, after the rate of 1300000 *l. per annum*; Six Millions, and five hundred thouſand Pounds.	6	500000
Allowed for the Pay of the Navy, Yards, Ord'nance and Victuallers, for the ſame time, 1800000 *l. per annum*; Nine Millions.	9	000000
Allowed for the Civil Liſt 600000 *l. per annum*, for the ſame time, Three Millions.	3	000000
Allowed to our Allies the *Dutch*	0	600000
Allowed 7 *l. per Cent.* for Intereſt of Money, borrowed upon Clauſes of Credit, given by Act of Parliament, after the rate of 150000 *l. per annum*, for the ſame time, Seven hundred and fifty thouſand Pounds.	0	750000
Allowed for the Revenue payable to the Queen Dowager, and the Princeſs *Anne* of *Denmark* (which we deſire may be duly paid them) *viz.* 18000 *l. per annum*, to the Queen, and 70000 *l. per annum* to the Princeſs (which notwithſtanding this Computation, the Civil Liſt ought to bear) and for the ſame time, amounts to Four hundred and fourty thouſand Pounds.	0	440000
Total allowed for theſe five Years, amounts to	20	290000
So there is, or ought to remain in the Exchequer (all Debts paid to the Navy and Army, *&c.*) Five Millions, two hundred and ten thouſand Pounds.	5	210000

YOU

YOu may take notice by this Accompt, That there is, or ought to be, in the Exchequer, to carry on the War, Five Millions two hundred and ten thousand Pounds, And 'tis believed the Government is in Debt about Six Millions; which you are liable to pay: And if you carry on the War next Year, you must necessarily raise Five Millions more (if this Five millions two hundred and ten thousand Pounds be not answered to the Nation) which is humbly offered to your Consideration: As also, Whether the Estimates here allowed, are paid to the Naval Army, &c.

FINIS.